

80 years later, the Civil Conservation Corp thumbprint is still on Kentucky

2013 marks the 80th anniversary of the establishment of the Civilian Conservation Corp (CCC) work relief program which, created originally under the Emergency Conservation Work Act, was



maintained until 1943 as a part of the New Deal. Established by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1933, the CCC employed 80,000 Kentuckians and nearly 100 camps were built across the state.

The evidence of CCC work in Kentucky still plays a lasting part of the landscape today, including their work structurally developing numerous state parks, including Cumberland Falls, Levi Jackson, Pine Mountain and Audubon. Work was also done throughout the state in fire prevention and conservation of federal and private forest areas. National parks in Kentucky, such as Mammoth Cave National Historic Park, have credited the CCC program with developing the property for use as a national park by creating structures, roads and pathways.

To discover oral history interviews with past CCC workers in Kentucky, visit http://passtheword.ky.gov.

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